STEVE SOUTHERLAND, II

2ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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March 18, 2014

Carolyn W. Colvin Commissioner U.S. Social Security Administration 6401 Security Blvd. Altmeyer Building, #900 Baltimore, MD 21235-0011

Dear Commissioner Colvin:

I am writing to request an immediate meeting regarding the administration's decision to close the Social Security office in Quincy, Florida. I am concerned that this decision was made without fully exploring all of the options available for keeping these resources in place in Gadsden County.

The Social Security Administration's position that these services will continue to be available in Tallahassee fails to account for the serious economic challenges facing Gadsden County families. More than a quarter of Gadsden County's residents live below the poverty line, many with limited access to transportation. This closure could have a devastating impact on the well-being of local seniors and disabled residents who will no longer have ready access to the indispensable services of the SSA.

With the closure of the Quincy office scheduled for March 28, 2014, I believe it is critical that swift consideration be given to all the options available to keep these vital services in place in Gadsden County, readily accessible to the people who need help the most.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request and I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

Stewe Southerland, II

United States Representative